

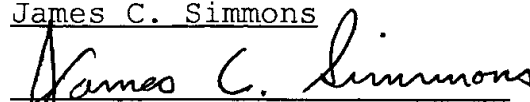


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James C. Simmons

  
Signature

REQUEST FOR FILING A PATENT APPLICATION  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Inventor: Lambros Apostolopoulos

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request for filing a divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) of pending prior application number 09/946,579, filed on September 5, 2001, and entitled BRIDGE PLATFORM. This prior application is assigned to Examiner A. Chin Shue in art unit 3634.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the latest inventor-signed prior application, including formal drawings (8 sheets) and including a copy of the oath or declaration showing the original signature.
2. A statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 was filed in prior application number 08/506,685 and such status is still proper and desired (37 CFR 1.28(a)). Small entity status is claimed.
3. As provided by the enclosed Preliminary Amendment, cancel in this application original claims 2 to 14 before calculating the filing fee, and claim 1 (as well as claims 2 to 14) are canceled by the Preliminary Amendment, as discussed below.
4. A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed in which claims 1 to 14 are canceled and claims 15 to 34 are newly submitted, with a total of 20 total claims and 4 independent claims remaining in this application after the above cancellation of claims and with the Preliminary Amendment entered. There is thus 1 excess independent claim for which an excess claims fee of \$43, at the

small entity rate, is due. The filing and excess claims fees, at the small entity rate, are \$385 (basic) plus \$43 (excess claims) or \$428.00.

5. A check in the amount of \$428.00, for the above filing and excess claims fees, is enclosed.

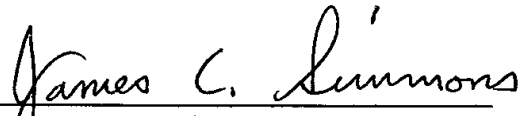
6. The inventor(s) of the invention being claimed in this application is(are): Lambros Apostolopoulos, a United States citizen whose residence and post office address is 70 Cherrywood Drive, Amherst, New York 14221.

7. The prior application is assigned of record to Paul Kristen, Inc.

8. The power of attorney in the prior application is to: James C. Simmons, 11 Falmouth Lane, Williamsville, New York 14221. Since the power of attorney does not appear in the original papers, a copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed. Address all future correspondence to:

James C. Simmons  
The Law Office of James C. Simmons  
11 Falmouth Lane  
Williamsville, New York 14221

Date: December 10, 2003

  
James C. Simmons  
Reg. no. 28,474

Enclosures  
The Law Office of James C. Simmons  
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